AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Currently Amended) A conjugate which comprises an antigen-presenting cell (APC) targeting molecule coupled to an antigen, wherein said APC-targeting molecule is a mutated superantigen having one or more mutations only in its T cell binding site as compared to its wild-type counterpart and wherein the conjugate is capable of binding to a Class II MHC molecule and eliciting an immune response specific to the antigen to prevent or treat an infection or disorder.

3. (Previously Presented) A conjugate according to claim 2, wherein the mutation of the T-cell receptor binding site is a substitution, deletion or addition.

4. (Previously Presented) A conjugate according to claim 2, wherein the T-cell binding site of the antigen-presenting cell (APC) targeting molecule has been deleted.

5. (Previously Presented) A conjugate according to claim 2, wherein the antigen-presenting cell (APC) targeting molecule is a mutated superantigen of *Staphylococcus aureus* and/or *Streptococcus pyogenes.*

6. (Previously Presented) A conjugate according to claim 5, wherein the mutated superantigen is a mutant form of a wild type SPE-C (SPE-C mutant).

7-9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously Presented) A conjugate according to claim 2, wherein the antigen-presenting- cell (APC) targeting molecule is coupled reversibly to the antigen.

11. (Previously Presented) A conjugate according to claim 2, wherein the antigen is a protein, a polypeptide and/or a peptide.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Previously Presented) A conjugate according to claim 2, wherein the antigen is non-immunogenic when not coupled to the antigen-presenting cell (APC) targeting molecule.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a conjugate according to claim 2 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, adjuvant, excipient and/or solvent.

16. (Previously Presented) A vaccine comprising a conjugate according to claim 2.

17. (Withdrawn) A method of therapeutic or prophylactic treatment of a disorder which requires the induction or stimulation of the immune system, comprising the administration to a subject requiring such treatment of ~~an immunomodulator~~ a conjugate according to claim 2.

18. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 17, wherein the disorder is selected from the group consisting of bacterial, viral, fungal or parasitic infection, autoimmunity, allergy and/or pre-neoplastic or neoplastic transformation.

19-20. (Cancelled)

21. (Withdrawn) A method of preparing ~~an immunomodulatory~~ a conjugate according to claim 2 comprising the steps of:

(a) introducing a modification and/or a deletion into the T-cell binding site of an antigen-presenting cell (APC) targeting molecule which is a superantigen, and

(b) coupling thereto and immunomodulatory antigen to produce a conjugate, wherein the conjugate is capable of binding to a Class II MHC molecule.

22. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 21, wherein the antigen-presenting cell (APC) targeting molecule is selected from the group of SPE-C, SMEZ and SEA.

23. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 21, wherein the antigen-presenting cell (APC) targeting molecule is SPE-C Y15A R181Q.

24. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 21, wherein the antigen-presenting cell (APC) targeting molecule is designated SPEC-Y15A.C27S.N79C.R181Q.

25. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 21, wherein the antigen-presenting cell (APC) targeting molecule is SPEC (-20-90).

26. (Withdrawn) A method of increasing antigenicity of a compound, comprising coupling of said compound to an antigen-presenting-cell (APC) targeting molecule to produce a conjugate according to claim 2, wherein said APC targeting molecule is a mutated superantigen having one or more mutations only in its T cell binding site as compared to its wild-type counterpart and the conjugate is capable of binding to a Class II MHC molecule.

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 26, wherein the T-cell receptor binding site, or at least a part thereof, of the antigen-presenting-cell (APC) targeting molecule has been modified by substitution or addition.

29. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 26, wherein the T-cell binding site of the antigen-presenting cell (APC) targeting molecule has been deleted.

30. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 26, wherein the antigen-presenting cell (APC) targeting molecule is a mutated superantigen of Staphylococcus *aureus* and/or *Streptococcus pyogenes*.

31. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 30, wherein antigen-presenting cell (APC) targeting molecule is a mutated SPE-C, SMEZ and/or SEA.

32. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 31, wherein the antigen-presenting cell (APC) targeting molecule is designated SPEC-Y15A as herein defined.

33. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 31, wherein the antigen-presenting cell (APC) targeting molecule is designated SPEC-Y15A R181Q.

34. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 31, wherein the antigen-presenting cell (APC) targeting molecule is designated SPEC-Y15A.C27S.N79C.R181Q

35. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 31, wherein the antigen-presenting cell (APC) targeting molecule is SPEC (-20-90).

36. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 26, wherein the antigen-presenting- cell (APC) targeting molecule is coupled reversibly to said compound.

37. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 26, wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of a protein, a polypeptide and/or a peptide, a carbohydrate or a nucleic acid.

38. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 26, wherein the compound is non-immunogenic when not coupled to the antigen-presenting cell (APC) targeting molecule.

39. (Cancelled)

40. (Previously Presented) The conjugate of claim 6, wherein the wild type SPE-C has the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2, and the SPE-C mutant has an Y15A mutation in SEQ ID NO: 2 (SPEC-Y15A).

41. (Previously Presented) The conjugate of claim 6, wherein the wild type SPE-C has the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2, and the SPE-C mutant has an Y15A mutation and an R181Q mutation in SEQ ID NO: 2 (SPEC-Y15A.R181Q).

42. (Previously Presented) The conjugate of claim 6, wherein the wild type SPE-C has the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2, and the SPE-C mutant has an Y15A mutation, a C27S mutation, an N79C mutation, and an R181Q mutation in SEQ ID NO: 2 (SPEC-Y15A.C27S.N79C.R181Q).

43. (Previously Presented) The conjugate of claim 6, wherein the wild type SPE-C has the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2, and the SPE-C mutant has a deletion of residues of 22-90 of SEQ ID NO: 2 (SPEC(-20-90).

44. (Previously Presented) The conjugate of claim 2, wherein the APC-targeting molecule is a mutated form of a wild type SPE-C having the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2, in which the amino acid residue Y15 of SEQ ID NO: 2 is mutated.

45. (Previously Presented) The conjugate of claim 2, wherein the APC-targeting molecule is a mutated form of a wild type SPE-C having the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2, in which the amino acid residue R181 of SEQ ID NO: 2 is mutated.

46. (New) The conjugate of claim 2, wherein the infection or disorder is an infection with a pathogen, a pre-neoplastic or neoplastic transformation, a tumor, an autoimmune disorder, or allergy.

47. (New) The conjugate of claim 2, wherein the antigen is chosen from the group consisting of an antigen obtain from a pathogen, a self-antigen, or a tumor specific antigen.

48. (New) The conjugate of claim 46, wherein the pathogen is a parasite, fungus, virus, bacteria, or other micro-organism.

49. (New) The conjugate of claim 48, wherein the antigen is a whole virus.

50. (New) The conjugate of claim 2, wherein the antigen is an MHC Class I or Class II restricted peptide.